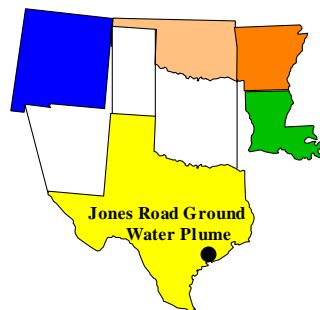


## JONES ROAD GROUND WATER PLUME HOUSTON, TEXAS

EPA Region 6  
EPA ID#: TXN000605460  
State Congressional District: 31

Updated: July 7, 2004



### SITE DESCRIPTION

---

- The Jones Road site is a groundwater plume contaminated with tetrachloroethylene (PCE) from the former Bell Dry Cleaners at 11600 Jones Road and other potential sources in Harris County, Texas. PCE is a manufactured chemical that is widely used for dry cleaning of fabrics. The plume is documented to extend from the southern end of Echo Spring Lane to Tower Oaks Boulevard and from Timber Hollow to the eastern side of Jones Road. Two hundred thirty one water wells have been sampled by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality since February 2002. Not all of the sampled wells are used for drinking water. Approximately 150 wells are being sampled every three months by the commission in an effort to protect human health at the site.
- The sampling area is larger than the known contamination plume, and includes wells with state-supplied filtration systems where confirmed contamination concentrations were above five parts per billion. The five parts per billion is the maximum contaminant level of PCE allowed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Wells with PCE below the maximum contaminant level and wells located outside the area of confirmed contamination are included in the quarterly sampling to assist investigators as they watch for changes in the test readings.

### PRESENT STATUS AND ISSUES

---

- Information obtained from the cone penetrometer testing (CPT) and geoprobe testing, and available water well construction data, has been compiled. TCEQ and EPA are in the process of identifying information gaps or “data gaps” as this is an important step in planning future investigative activities. This information was shared at the community meeting on April 20, 2004.
- TCEQ conducted a site-wide ground water sampling event during the weeks of May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Owners/tenants of 28 properties have filtration systems installed on their wells.
- On February 20, 2004, the TCEQ completed the sampling of 114 water wells. Based on preliminary results, there are four additional residential wells in which PCE concentrations in water exceeded the EPA’s drinking water standard of 5.0 parts per billion (ppb). TCEQ immediately installed filtration systems at the wells.

### NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST

---

NPL Inclusion Proposal Date: April 30, 2003  
NPL Inclusion Final Date: September 29, 2003

## **SITE MAP**

---

See the list of maps for the Jones Road site at the EPA website.

## **SITE HISTORY**

---

- The plume was originally detected in a Public Water Supply well between Jones Road and Tower Oaks Boulevard. The water well is owned by the childcare facility and supplies drinking water for 18 employees and approximately 250 children enrolled in either gymnastics or childcare.

## **ENFORCEMENT HISTORY**

---

- General notice letters issued on 8/11/2003 and 3/19/2004.
- Information request letters were issued on 8/11/2003.

## **HUMAN HEALTH AND ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT**

---

- Five parts per billion is the drinking water standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL) of PCE under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

## **RECORD OF DECISION**

---

Signed: Projected for December 2005

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

---

TCEQ has the lead for community involvement activities.

- Community Involvement Plan: January 2004
- Open houses and workshops: 4/20/2004, 11/18/2003, 6/16/2003, 2/17/2003
- Proposed Plan Fact Sheet: NA
- Proposed Plan Public Meeting: NA
- ROD Fact Sheet: NA
- Milestone Fact Sheets: 4/2/2004
- Site Repository: Northwest Branch Harris County Public Library, 11355 Regency Green Drive, Cypress, Texas 77429; Phone (281) 890-2665

## **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT**

---

- Availability Notice: 5/15/03
- Letters of Intent (LOI): 6/18/03
- LOI News paper Notice: Week of 7/27/03, Houston Chronicle zoned edition; All applications due 9/25/03
- Application received 10/24/03 from:  
Gloria G. Selby  
(281) 890-3765  
Jones Road Coalition for Safe Drinking Water
- Grant Award: application complete, forwarded for funding on April 13, 2004
- Current Status: as of 6/04, no funds have been expended.

## **SITE CONTACTS**

---

EPA Remedial Project Manager:	Vince Malott, (214) 665-8313 or 1-800-533-3508
EPA Site Attorney:	Jim Bove, (214) 665-2794 or 1-800-533-3508
EPA Community Involvement:	Donn Walters, (214) 665-6483 or 1-800-533-5308
EPA Contractor:	N/A
EPA Region 6 Ombudsman:	Arnold Ondarza, 1-800-533-3508
TCEQ State Contact:	Subhash Pal, (512) 239-4513

## **REALIZED CLEANUP BENEFITS**

---

- The ground water contamination has currently impacted 28 wells above the MCL of 5 ppb. Continued contaminant migration has the potential to impact additional wells above the MCL.